

BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)

Technical Committee Minutes - August 6, 2009

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Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.

Those present were:

Dave Engelhardt, BCATS staff; Dirk Westbury, BCATS staff; John Gaydos, City of Bay City; Terry Moulthane, City of Bay City; Dale Majerczyk, City of Essexville; Jim Lillo, Bay County Road Commission; Brandon Wilcox, MDOT Planning, and; Mike Stoner, Bay Metro Transit Authority.

Minutes from June 4, 2009 Tech meeting:

It was moved by Gaydos, seconded by Majerczyk, to approve the minutes from the June 4, 2009 meeting. Motion Passed.

BCATS 2011-14 TIP Adjusted Time Line for Adoption:

Engelhardt provided everyone with a draft time line handout and discussed that he needs to get projects listed for 2012-13-14. It would seem that the draft time line is basically done and if there are any changes, Engelhardt needs to know before the draft becomes official.

MDOT TIP Amendments:

Funds have become available for the Bay Zilwaukee Trail Project and the M-13 Connector Solar Lighting Project at Wilder Rd. The Bay Zilwaukee Trail Project is for purchasing of the inactive rail corridor between Bay City and Zilwaukee. Wilcox mentioned that the M-13 Solar Lighting Project was not only a regional project, but also a green project. Engelhardt will need to get more information regarding these projects prior to the BCATS Policy Meeting, however he would like to have favorable support.

A motion was made by Moulthane, seconded by Stoner, to favorably recommend to the BCATS Policy Committee to approve the MDOT TIP Amendments. Motion Passed.

Local TIP Amendments:

Engelhardt provided a handout for discuss regarding the available ARRA and STP funding and the allocation of the funds to projects. BCATS needs to determine which projects would be best suited for the use of ARRA funds. Westbury explained that based on the bid award results, there should be \$366,431 from the Harrison Street Project that can be allocated to another project. Gaydos explained that the Marquette Connector Project doesn't need the ARRA Funds (\$480,000) as the bid results were low and the local match and a Safety Grant can cover the cost. Discussion ensued.

As a result, \$480,000 ARRA funds and \$366,431 of STP funds needs to be reallocated. The Woodside/Truman/Marquette concrete repair project, already in the TIP, but not fully funded, would receive the \$480,000 ARRA funds. The STP from Harrison will be transferred to North Union between 2 Mile Rd and Euclid which was a alternative priority project for ARRA funding.

A motion was made by Lillo, seconded by Gaydos, to favorably recommend to the BCATS Policy Committee to approve the above listed project allocations for ARRA and STP Funding. Motion Passed.

TIGER Funds:

Majerczyk explained that there is a \$1.2 million railroad crossing project coming to Essexville. This project is expected to be funded through a combination of Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Funds from MDOT and Safety Funds.

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Majerczyk wanted to know if this project should be listed in the TIP and was also looking for a letter of support from BCATS. Engelhardt felt that this project should be acknowledged in the TIP if federal funding is utilized. Majerczyk will get a project description to Engelhardt.

A motion was made by Majerczyk, seconded by Lillo, to favorably recommend to the BCATS Policy Committee to include the above referenced project into the TIP and to write a letter of support for the project. Motion Passed.

FTA TIP Amendment Process:

Engelhardt informed the committee that one BMTA transit project for a bus replacement using ARRA funds was not approved, two were listed, but only one project should have been listed. The unfunded project will be removed from the TIP.

BCATS FY 2010 Unified Work Program (UWP):

Engelhardt explained that the UWP is complete and will be sent to the State. The one notable change is that the intern position has been eliminated from the UWP.

BCATS Public Involvement Plan:

Engelhardt discussed the changes to BCATS Public Participation Plan, and will have completed the 45 day public review period by the next BCATS Policy Meeting. Engelhardt has received very little feedback to date, and what he did receive was positive.

A motion was made by Engelhardt, seconded by Moulthane, to favorably recommend to the BCATS Policy Committee to approve the BCATS Public Involvement Plan. Motion Passed.

New Preliminary FEMA DFIRM Maps for Bay County:

Engelhardt discussed the preliminary DFIRM released by FEMA for Bay County. It shows some changes to 100 year flood zones. Bay County GIS has compared the preliminary DFIRM to the county parcels to determine which properties may be affected and sent out a notice to the townships. If a home falls in the new flood zone, but outside the current zone, owners may have to add flood insurance. If they purchase their flood insurance now, they will be able to get it a lower rate based on the current effective maps. Rates will go up once the new maps become effective. Engelhardt isn't sure if the new flood zones will change any road criteria or affect the engineering.

Non-Motorized Update:

Westbury discussed the TIP Amendment, the acquisition of the trail line along the Saginaw River to Zilwaukee. Dow has providing decking for one, maybe two of the bridges on the trail. A portion of the Bay City Railtrail loop from Park Ave to Trumbull St has been re-paved. There will be a three day fund raiser for connecting the Bay, Midland and Saginaw trails, "3 Trails in 3 Days" taking place September 18th - 20th and they are looking for volunteers.

Projects Update:

The **Safe Routes to Schools Project** should be let in September, 2009. This project includes a Euclid Avenue Cross Walk signal at Kiesel. The **Delta Road Bridge Project** is under budget and should be done by early September, 2009. The **Nine Mile Road Bridge** has been replaced at Wilder Road. The **Old State Road Bridge** will remain closed and may not be replaced. The **Kinney Road Bridge** is currently closed and the Road Commission is working on ways to fund and replace the bridge. The **Borton Avenue Project** proposals were sent out to five different contractors and the amounts received in the bids ranges greatly. The GI for

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this project should be out in late October or early November of 2009. The **Woodside Avenue Project** has gone to court and is still in litigation. The **Center Avenue Project** will start to pave by next week and should be completed by the end of November. The **Harrison Street Project** is completed. The **Marquette Ave Connector Project** will begin August 24, 2009. The **Beaver Road Project** is having their pre-construct meeting today. The **M-84 MDOT Project** will be let in October of 2009 with a construction beginning in 2010 and will continue into 2011.

Other/New Business:

Rail Road Crossing Traffic Counts Request:

Gaydos received a request to conduct 54 traffic counts within six months for Rail Road Crossing traffic counts in the City of Bay City. He wondered if anyone else had received similar requests. Lillo indicated that he had also received a request to conduct Rail Road Crossing traffic counts.

Kalamazoo Transportation Conference:

Engelhardt discussed the MTPA conference in Kalamazoo. He thought it was very interesting to hear about how LED lights used for street lights and crossings could save quite a bit of money. According to the vendors, switching to LED lights can pay for itself within 4-5 years. He encouraged local MPOs to research the use of LED lights to save money. Engelhardt also discussed the new signal box technology that uses a little GPS chip to keep signals on time. It keeps better sync and is not hard wired. If anyone is interested in more information, Engelhardt has the name of the presenter from the conference.

As there was no other business, the August 6, 2009 meeting was adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Engelhardt
BCATS Director

Transcribed by C. Gaul

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